

# SELECTIONS FROM THE VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH, AND  
CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 10th June, 1871.

## POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).

THE *Saharunpore Gazette* of the 15th May asserts that a magazine in the Roorkee Workshop, containing charcoal worth Rs. 15,000, took fire at 1 a.m. on the 6th May. Notwithstanding all the soldiers at the station, numbering about 3,000 men, including the 109th Fusileers, Royal Engineers, and the corps of Native and European Sappers and Miners, came with a pump to extinguish the fire, and the students of the 2nd class, to the number of some 1,500, also lent their assistance, the fire was only put out, with the greatest difficulty, at 9 o'clock next morning. The whole of the magazine was consumed, the amount of the loss being estimated at Rs. 35,000. A committee of twenty-five officers, Native and European, has been appointed to discover the cause. According to some it was the act of some wicked person, but others affirm that it was caused by the charcoal igniting of itself.

The *Benares Akhbār* of the 25th May, in its column of local news, reports that a bold dacoity was committed in Jagdeespore in the house of Durvijai Singh, zemindar, on the 21st idem. The dacoits assaulted and beat the owners, and made off with money and property. No trace of them has yet been found. They are stated to have entered under the pretence of being a marriage party.



An Amritsur correspondent of the *Oudh Akhbār* of the 30th May states that in Namak Mundī a Musalmán, while purchasing sweetmeats from a Hindú confectioner, had a dispute with him, and threw the sweetmeats touched by him into his tray. The noise of the dispute drew men of both castes to the spot, and a struggle ensued. A complaint was lodged before the Magistrate of the district, who referred it to the Honorary Magistrates of the city for decision. The latter sentenced fourteen Hindús to imprisonment and fine. This partial decision, it is remarked, has encouraged the Musalmáns to tyrannize over the Hindús, and insult them by saying that as no punishment was inflicted on the Musalmán who ventured to pollute the confectioner's tray of sweetmeats, nothing would be done to any one for giving offence to the Hindús.

Another correspondent of the same paper, in his letter dated 24th May, asserts that the tyranny and extortions of the present ruler of Chumba have led many of the subjects of that State to repair to Lahore to represent their grievances to the Lieutenant-Governor.

The *Oudh Akhbār* draws attention to the article which appeared on Chumba in a foregoing number (vide p. 222 of the *Selections* for the week ending 13th May last), and to the propriety, as suggested therein, of dispossessing the present ruler of the principality till the settlement of the question of succession. Unless this is done, the interests of the State will greatly suffer, and the editor again impresses on the Government of the Punjab the necessity of carrying out his suggestion.

The *Urdu Akhbār* of the 1st June likewise devotes an article to Chumba. The writer wonders that the question as to the right of succession to the State should be so long pending, and that nothing should have yet been decided. He is of opinion that Suchet Singh is the rightful heir, and believes that the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab will do him full justice and place him on the *musnud*.



The *Musid-i-Am* of the same date, in its column of local news, states that, in consequence of the proposed construction of a new road in the city, which is to pass from Hing-kimundi to the Kinari Bazar, hundreds of houses are to be demolished. The object of making the road is not known.

It is also noticed with regret that the spacious garden attached to the mausoleum at Secundra has been demolished by the Superintendent of the Jail, and is to be devoted to agricultural purposes. The editor remarks that such proposals of the authorities throw the people into great consternation.

The *Urdú Akhbār* of the same date asserts that thefts and robberies prevail in Delhi to such an alarming extent that people dare not go out of their houses alone for fear of being stripped of their very clothes. Several serious cases have happened of late which have struck a panic in the hearts of the inhabitants. Among these may be mentioned the following:—

(1) Last week a banker was robbed of his bag, containing valuables worth Rs. 10,000, at the very foot of the Jami Masjid—a frequent resort, and crowded at all times—by a party of dacoits, who also wounded him. No trace of the dacoits has yet been found.

(2) A few days before this occurrence, another banker was robbed in a similar way at the same place. This robbery, too, has not been traced to the present day.

(3) Another dacoity has been committed in Alipore, and several men have been wounded.

(4) The shop of a wood-seller, situated opposite the city police-station, was broken into, and property valued at Rs. 300 stolen.

It would be tedious to enumerate thefts of a less serious nature so common in the city. Persons going to the railway station are afraid of being robbed of their luggage on the way. In fact, fear of robbery prevails to such an extent, that



it is a common saying among the people that one must not go out of his house except at certain hours of the day. The mahájuns close their shops before evening. The district authorities are doing their best to rectify this state of things, and spare no pains in making inquiries. The higher officers of police patrol the city all night long to secure the safety of the people.

It strikes the writer with surprise that crime should be so prevalent in British dominions, and he remarks that Native States have received a bad name for mismanagement without reason, since in none of them are thefts and robberies so frequent as in British territories. Whenever three or four cases occur in any Native state, it is universally attacked for misrule, and the chief is declared to be unfit to govern, and the attention of Government is called to the subject; nay more, Government is advised to dispossess the chief and take the management of the State into its own hands.

The writer proceeds to consider the cause of the frequency of robberies in British territories. He is of opinion that the punishment inflicted by Government on persons guilty of the crime is too light, and, instead of serving as a warning, only proves a stimulus to crime. As a general rule, three or four months' imprisonment is the utmost punishment inflicted, of which thieves think so lightly as to deem it a pleasure rather than punishment. After the short period of imprisonment is over, they again indulge in their lawless career with greater boldness, convinced that the highest chastisement that will await them will be that they will be put into jail, where, instead of gaining a precarious livelihood, they will have a sure means of support and get plenty to eat. The writer praises the policy adopted by Mr. Fitzpatrick, who, during the short time he remained at Delhi, put an effective check to theft by inflicting so much as two years' imprisonment for the most petty offences.

The other causes to which the writer ascribes the frequency of theft are—(1) the prevalence of gambling, to put a check to



which is most reasonable and proper; (2) the practice of allowing the gates of the city to remain open all night, and letting all persons whatever pass through them without hindrance; (3) the opportunities the rail affords thieves of making off with the stolen property the very night they commit a theft.

The writer thinks a little attention on the part of the authorities would remove the grievance. The simplest plan in his opinion will be to allow no man to leave the gates without being searched. The same should be done at railway stations, and no passenger should be permitted to take his seat in the carriage unless he has been properly searched.

The *Najm-ul-Akhbār* of the same date quotes from the *Akmal-ul-Akhbār* a similar statement with regard to the frequency of thefts in Delhi: It is asserted that cases of robbery and murder are now so frequent in the city that the like of them never occurred since the commencement of the British rule. Thieves fear not a bit the chastisement inflicted on them by Government, and pursue their profession with freedom. The first thing one hears on rising from bed in the morning is news of thefts and robberies. Here a dacoity has been committed, there a theft has happened. The following is a detail of the cases which happened in the course of a week:—

(1) A shoemaker killed his wife for bad conduct. The murderer and his father-in-law are in custody.

(2) A bunneah woman, named Hammála, threw herself into a well with her son of two years old, in consequence of a quarrel with her mother-in-law.

(3) A party of two persons came to the shop of one Motí Rám, jeweller, on the pretence of buying jewels, and after stealing a small purse containing precious stones worth Rs. 750, scampered off with the prize. A search was made, and the thieves were caught at Morserai. They were found to have other goods but not the purse, and are yet in custody.



(4) A sharper called at the shop of Bindrában, banker, and asked the owner to show him some jewels. A lot of valuables was placed before him, out of which he picked up some worth three or four hundred rupees, and after settling the price pretended to tie up the things in a piece of cloth, which he returned to the banker, saying he would come back presently with the money. The banker expected his return, but finding that he did not come untied the cloth, when he found that the valuables had been taken out and pieces of gravel substituted.

(5) A dacoity took place in Radireepore, six miles from Delhi, in the house of Jaisí Rám, Chowdhree. Two or three men riding on camels entered first, and were followed by a party of dacoits, who advanced boldly on with torches in their hands. They wounded three men and carried away property worth several thousands of rupees.

(6) A wood-seller, who keeps his shop in front of the city police-station, has been robbed of property valued at Rs. 500.

(7) The house of the late Háfiz Dáúd was robbed of goods of the value of Rs. 2,500. No trace of the thief has been found.

A correspondent of the *Uddá Akhbár* of the same date, writing from Purneah, reports the plundering of the public mail-cart at Dungráhá Ghát, at 8 p.m. on the 13th May: The coachman was severely wounded by the robbers. The goods plundered are said to be worth about three lakhs of rupees. Inquiries are being made, but no trace of the robbers has yet been found.

The *Núr-ul-Absár* of the same date notices the loss which bankers have had to suffer by the supersession of the country pice by the English. The arrangement is profitable to Government on account of the great difference in the value of the coin, and the price of the copper used; but the bankers of all places where copper coins of the old fashion were current having a large quantity of them in their possession, suffered a heavy loss. The public, too, suffer some loss on account of



the supply of the new coins being scanty in all places. A few days ago 15½ annas only were to be had for a rupee in Allahabad, and, though a fresh supply has now been received, the rate is still one pice less per rupee. In other words, each person suffers a loss of Re. 1-9-0 per cent., which is even more than the highest rate of interest in money dealings. In the writer's opinion, since Government makes much profit by the new coins, it should allow a suitable commission to those who purchase a large quantity.

In its column of local news, the same paper states that the weather is constantly changing, and that cholera has made its appearance in the city, and daily carries off some ten or twenty persons.

The *Akhbar-i-Alam* of the same date has a long article on flattery, the gist of which is that Natives are so much given to cringing and obsequiousness as to neglect solid virtues. Those of them who have a hand in political administration, such as honorary magistrates, jurors, assessors, and members of municipal, educational, and other committees, are generally men who want learning and experience; and if there are some among them who do possess both, and are able to pass a sound judgment, they think it their best policy to second the opinions of European officers, even though they may be convinced of their being unsound or absurd. They cannot dare to contradict the officers, even where they know the latter are in the wrong, for fear of displeasing them. This habit of flattering not only causes many evils in public administration, and lowers Native gentlemen in the esteem of others, but, what is worse, spoils the temper of the officers.

Then, again, Rājas and Mahārājas spend hundreds of thousands of rupees in erecting hospitals, schools, or other institutions of public utility to perpetuate the memory of certain European officers. Such donations are not only unobjectionable in their nature but do credit to the donors, provided they be actuated by sincere motives, which is rarely the case. In



England generous persons often bestow large sums of money in charity by means of anonymous letters, which proves the givers to be truly liberal and magnanimous. This is unknown in India, where the rich spend money simply for the sake of show or to please and flatter the authorities. If this be denied, we may ask why gentlemen who build expensive memorials in honour of European officers seldom think of raising similar memorials in commemoration of their fathers and grandfathers. It cannot be that they have more love for the former than for the latter. The editor concludes with advising his countrymen to appreciate what is actually good and meritorious.

The same paper quotes from the *Mofussilite* a London telegram, dated 21st May, containing particulars of the nomination of certain Native gentlemen to the Order of the Star. The editor remarks that many of the names given are wrong and ambiguous. It is a mystery, for instance, who is meant by the "Mahārāja of Oudh." In the writer's opinion, the Mahārāja of Balrāmpore and Tulsipore is probably meant. He already wears the title of K.C.S.I., and it is not unlikely that the higher title of K.G.C.S.I., has now been conferred on him.

The *Nūr-ul-Absār* of the same date reviews the same subject. It is remarked that a whole lot of titles has come from England for Native gentlemen. Like his Meerut contemporary, the editor of the *Nūr-ul-Absār* is at a loss to make out what chief is meant by the "Mahārāja of Oudh," who has been deemed worthy of the highest distinction of the Order of the Star. He doubts if the late Mahārāja Mān Singh is intended by the designation, and remarks that if this be a fact the honour has come too late; similarly, it is doubtful who should be understood by "Nawāb Dulār," who has been judged worthy of the second-grade distinction or K.C.S.I.; "Nawāb of Oudh" is another mystery. The title of Nawāb was worn by the rulers of Oudh till the time of Sa'adat Ali Khān, after whose time the reigning prince came to be called by the surname of



**Shah.** It is probable there may be some Nawab in Oudh, but surely none exists who has such a connection with the whole domain as to pass for its Nawab.

One gentleman, Khwaja Abdul Ghani of Dacca, has received the distinction of Commander, and four others of Companions. The names of the latter are so written as to make it impossible to make out to what country and language they belong. The editor expresses his surprise that, notwithstanding a long residence in India, English editors should still be so ignorant as not to be able to distinguish right from wrong names.

The *Samaya Vinod* of the same date notices the order which has been in force in Bareilly for some time past, in consequence of the Muharram riots, viz., that no person, Hindú or Musalmán, should go out of his house after sunset, lest, on account of the bad feeling prevailing between the two races, something serious might happen. The editor quotes a statement from *The Progress* to the effect that after the prohibition had been issued a person fell sick, and, as no medical help was forthcoming, died during the night. The relations of the deceased could render him no assistance, and in consequence of the prohibition could not go out of the house to get a physician. The *Samaya Vinod* fails to see that the prohibition can be of any use, asks if it will put an effective check to the disturbance, adding that if the statement made in *The Progress* is a fact, the matter is well worthy of the attention of Government.

A Pillibheet correspondent of the *Essex Gazette*, of the 2nd June, in his letter, dated 26th May, gives an account of the punishments inflicted on the persons concerned in the riot which took place in the town during the late celebration of the Muharram festival. The correspondent remarks that, though the disturbance has been brought to an end, the hearts of the public are still influenced by fanatic zeal. In support of this statement, he mentions that at 6 a.m. a Musalmán, who was a brick-layer by profession, went to a Hindú priest in a temple, under the pretence of asking him to suggest some remedy for his sick



child. The priest, after consulting his sacred book, told him to make a propitiatory offering, when the Musalmán thrust a knife into his belly with such force that his entrails came out. On coming out of the temple, the murderer wounded another priest and four other Hindús. He was immediately arrested by the police. The case is under consideration in the Court.

After 8 p.m. on the 22nd May an earthquake occurred. Three light motions were felt, but no injury was done to life or property.

The *Panjábí Akhbár* of the 3rd June, under the heading Murshedabad, states that cases of murder are very frequent in the city, and that many deaths have occurred. The authorities pay no attention to the matter, and take no steps to put a check to the crime. The writer thinks it probable that Government will reprove them for their neglect in this particular.

The same paper publishes a list of the offspring of the Nawáb Názim of Bengal, with the date of birth and the age of each. This list is a copy of the one submitted to the Foreign Department through the Political Agent. It shows twenty princes and twenty-one princesses, varying, the former from 24 years to 1 year of age, and the latter from 21 to 2 years. It will be observed that in consequence of the large number of children, the expenses of the Nizámut are very heavy, to which it is owing that the Nizámut is always in debt. The smallness of income, as compared with the vast expenditure that has to be incurred, is a source of extreme care and anxiety to the Nawáb. The list will show that the greater number of the princesses have arrived at puberty; but unfortunately, with the exception of two, all are yet unmarried. The Nawáb had to spend several lakhs of rupees out of his own pocket on the marriages of the two princesses, only Rs 8,000 having been allowed out of the Nizámut fund. The writer thinks that if on an examination of the list Government be not moved to help the Nawáb, his case is certainly much to be regretted. It



is proper for Government to sanction disbursements out of the fund as necessary, and especially so on marriages of the princesses.

In the next article, the same paper gives an account of the expenses of the army kept up in British India. It is remarked that as the Government of India has been proved to be extravagant in other heads of expenditure, so is it in the army expenses. Its wastefulness becomes manifest on a comparison of the number and cost of the Indian forces with those of other countries; nay, on reviewing the expenses and arrangements of India itself during the past years side by side with those of the present, it will appear that not the least discretion is exercised by Government in the management of the finances. It is much to be regretted that no single head of expenditure of the Indian budget is satisfactory, and that yet no pains are taken to discover the causes of mismanagement, or steps taken to reform. The people of India have wished during the past year to invite the attention of the authorities in England to this state of things (the Government of India being of course unwilling to hear any complaints against itself), but all in vain. Their cries and complaints have been passed over unheeded. Many useless expenses are clearly manifest, and yet Lord Mayo's tact and ability cannot be called in question. About one or two weeks ago we published a London telegram, containing the reply of Parliament to the petition on the part of the Natives of India, praying for the appointment of a Royal Commission for investigating into the state of the Indian finances. The reply went to show that the complaints of the people against the income-tax were alone admissible, and that in all other matters no interference could be made in the administration of the Indian Government without implying a want of confidence in Lord Mayo's management, which was declared to be praiseworthy.

The writer proceeds to take a comparative view of the expenses of the past year with those of the present. He gives two statements showing the expenses incurred on account of



the army in the time of the East India Company and those incurred in subsequent years down to the current year. From these it appears that in the time of the East India Company, when the number of the army was about 288,000, the amount of expenses was Rs. 11,08,00,000 a year; while now, when the number has been reduced to 189,000 nearly, the expenditure has risen to Rs. 16,26,00,000. In other words, while the number of the army has been reduced by one-third, as compared with the past years, the expenditure, instead of being proportionately lessened, has increased in the proportion of fifty per cent., which is a clear proof of the extravagance of Government.

Again, a comparison of the expenses of the Indian Government with those of other countries shows its mismanagement. In Russia the annual expense of an army of 812,060 men is seventeen krores; in France an army of 404,000 costs thirteen krores, and in Germany the number of forces is 320,000 and the expense nine krores. In other words, in India, while the army numbers only 189,000, the expense is twice as much as in Germany, and equal to that in Russia, where the force is quadruple.

The same paper learns that the new Gaekwār of Barodah tyrannizes over Bhow Sindhia, Prime Minister of his deceased brother, Khunde Ráo Gaekwār, in a most brutal manner, and takes a delight in heaping the greatest indignities on him. He has not only kept him in the closest confinement, and subjected him to great tortures, but before sending him to jail caused him to be stripped of his clothes and fettered, and in that state made him clean all the principal streets of the city with a broom and basket in his hands like a sweeper. It is stated that the reason why Mulhar Ráo has exposed Bhow Sindhia to such disgrace, is to retaliate the injuries and insult he had received at the hands of the latter eight years ago. When Mulhar Ráo was imprisoned, and begged for pardon, Bhow advised Kunde Ráo not to release him; entreaties were therefore unheeded, and he was turned out by Bhow with insult.



The *Kavi Vachan Sudhā* of the same date ascribes the heavy taxes imposed by Government on the people to two causes; viz., (1) the high expenses incurred in the army (particulars of which have been given by the *Pānjābī Akhbār* above); (2) the liberal pensions assigned by Government to the *employés* of the India office, which are often equivalent to the salaries drawn by them before retiring from service. The writer condemns this system.

The same paper, noticing the construction of a new road in Benares, which is to lead from the Chowk Bazar to Godaulia, suggests the desirability of leaving the pagoda abutting on the road uninjured. Its destruction will wound the feelings of the Hindús, and the writer believes that the authorities will pay special attention to the matter. A Pandit is said to have observed that as the pagoda had been built by a prostitute, there could be no objection to its being demolished. The writer condemns the Pandit's argument, and remarks that if such reasoning were allowed to have weight, it would appear justifiable to demolish numerous buildings.

It is added that a meeting of the Hindús was held on the 1st June, in order to draw up a memorial for the preservation of the temple, to be presented to the Magistrate.

In another article the same paper regrets that a public building erected at Bangalore at a cost of Rs. 1,30,000 has been disapproved of, and will have to be demolished. The loss will of course fall on the poor Hindustánis.

A Lucknow correspondent of the *Urdu Delhi Gazette* of the same date reports that on the 23rd May a serious case of theft occurred in that city in the house of the Munshim of the Civil Court. Many public documents and decrees of the Court have been stolen, the loss of which will occasion many evils. The writer takes this occasion to comment on the bad practice of permitting officials to take public papers to their houses.



It is added that the weather is intolerable, and no signs of rain are visible, and that, consequently, many deaths occur in the city and its environs.

The *Kárnámah* of the 5th June finds fault with the existing system of police, and remarks that under it crime has greatly increased, and that it is impossible to get a conviction. Bad characters, who are acquainted with the procedure of the Criminal Courts, have made it their principle never to make a confession of their guilt, and thus escape the law. The wicked have made it a practice to lay false accusations against gentlemen, and thus often involve them in disgrace and difficulties, because sharp-tempered officers, without understanding the actual facts, hastily subject them to punishment. Under these circumstances, the writer advises the authorities not only to institute proper inquiries in criminal cases, but also to note the character and general behaviour of the parties.

A correspondent of the *Shola-i-Túr* of the 6th June draws the attention of the authorities to the following abuses connected with the Courts, and remarks that a reform of them will save the people from unlawful liabilities and demands:—

(1) The unlawful proceeding on the part of the officials in criminal cases. It often happens that when in complex cases the real offender is not to be traced, the officials force the suspected one by threats and denunciations to make a confession of the crime, in order to show their *kárguzárí*, and as the superior officers base their decision on the facts recorded in the *misl* of the case, the result is that the innocent are brought to punishment, while the guilty escape with impunity. The writer is not unconscious that the proceeding in question has its benefits in dealing with cases of thefts and dacoities reported to the police, where it is often the best policy to be very strict in inflicting punishments even when no trace of the crimes be found, in order to give warning to others;



but he would ask the authorities to pursue such a system that, while the police arrangements may not suffer and criminals be kept in awe, the innocent should not be subjected to punishment.

(2) The extortions practised by the vendors of stamps. It is customary with these persons to make undue demands from purchasers, claiming whatever they choose, as if the stamps were private property which could be sold at any price the owner likes, or, at least, demanding a fixed proportion on every stamp sold. As the practice is against the rules, steps ought to be taken by the authorities to check it. The vendors receive a commission from Government, and it is certainly highly unjust that they should be suffered to practise extortion on purchasers.

#### POLITICAL (FOREIGN).

The *Núr-ul-Absár* of the 1st June has an article on the tact of Count Bismarck. The writer begins with stating that when God wishes to exalt any one to eminence, He instils such wise thoughts and schemes into his mind as ultimately bring about the desired result; and that when, on the other hand, it is His will to humble a person, He disposes his thoughts a different way, and makes him blind to all precaution. He exemplifies the truth of this maxim in the case of the Emperor of the French and the Prussian King in the late Franco-Prussian war. It was God's will that the former should fall from his lofty position, and, accordingly, He inspired him with such thoughts that, regardless of all precaution, and without stooping to compare his military resources with those of his adversary, he engaged himself in a war, the result of which proved quite contrary to his expectations. On the other hand, He bent Count Bismarck, long before the ensuing of the war, on the adoption of plans and schemes which in the end resulted in the overthrow of a great empire and the assumption by his King of the title of Emperor. All things concurred in fostering his views, and the strategy employed secured results which none could at first foresee.



Above all, the heavy war indemnity claimed as one of the terms of peace was demanded with a special object in view, which no one could think of at the time, but which has now manifested itself. Count Bismarck had foreseen that the payment of so enormous a sum was an impossibility, a conjecture which the present state of affairs in France has confirmed. The Government of the country is at present neither monarchical nor republican, but is vested in the hands of a few chiefs. These and their partisans agreed to the terms of the treaty, and it was not noticed that the people, on whom the burden of the demands must fall, were at liberty to accept or reject them. As it is, they have showed their aversion to consent to the terms, and the result is that a civil war has broken out between them and the chiefs, which is raging with great fury. Thus, as at the outset of the war the stratagem employed by Count Bismarck proved successful, so the plan thought of by him at the termination of the war has, as if by heavenly aid, turned out well. It is reasonable to expect that the civil war will in a short time completely weaken the contending factions, and reduce them to extremities, thereby giving the Prussians, a pretence for occupying the country, on the plea that the chiefs are unfit to govern. It is probable that the French people, supposing the Prussians exempted them from the payment of the whole or the greater part of the promised sum, which is not unlikely, may on this condition submit to the yoke, and thus, what was only possible of accomplishment after much bloodshed and at a heavy expense, may be achieved with ease.

The same paper devotes a long leader to the question of the misunderstanding that has at present arisen between the British Government and the King of Burmah, in consequence of the former having refused to accede to the request of the latter to import Enfield rifles from the British dominions, and the latter's showing his aversion in return to allow any foreign nation to carry on trade with his country. Government has taken offence at this behaviour of the King, and intends to keep



up trade with his country by force of arms. As each party is zealous in its own cause, and ignores the interests of the other, they must come to opposition. Government knows that the King is by no means a match for it, and is therefore obstinate in its requisitions, while the King, on his part, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Political Agent, remains unmoved. The editors of English newspapers publicly charge the King with refractoriness, an opinion which the *Nur-ul-Absar* strongly condemns. "It is easy enough for these gentlemen," it remarks, "to sit at their ease in their bungalows and pass such judgments. What matters it to them if one's life is lost or one's family is ruined! Their sole concern is their newspaper; and so long as a war with Burmah can furnish them a new subject to scribble on, and can enrich their sheets for a time with fresh matter, they have no hesitation in stirring it up." The writer believes Government will not agree with the selfish editors, and, unless the King of Burmah infringes the terms of the treaty that exists between him and Government, will never think of commencing a war. The English editor acts on the principle that, unless a powerful party displays its power, it cannot be called so; but he forgets to remember that a strong man who is apt to risk an engagement with every weak person he comes across, without caring to strengthen himself, loses his power, till at last he is incapacitated even to cope with his juniors.

Setting these political considerations aside, all the Hindustani subjects of Her Majesty should pray to God that all the chiefs and princes confessing her sway may continue loyal and faithful to her, and that circumstances may not arise by which the expenses of the Government will be increased. Already the public treasury is empty, and if a war takes place, the distress of the people will know no bounds. It is with the greatest difficulty that the income-tax has been reduced from 3½ per cent. to two pies per rupee, and it may be imagined what will happen if a necessity again presents itself for raising the rate.



The same paper refers to the intention of the Czar to pay a visit to Berlin on the 9th June—information gathered from telegrams. The editor thinks that the object of the visit is not simply to congratulate the Prussian Emperor on his late victory, but to consult with him on some important affair. He goes on to remark that these two sovereigns are at present so powerful and ambitious that were they to unite they would overthrow the whole of Europe. Austria, Greece, Italy, Denmark, and other states are by no means a match for them. France alone was an object of dread to the Germans, and now that it has been reduced to its present abject state, unless other countries receive support from heaven, they will all have cause to repent their folly in remaining silent spectators of the destruction of an empire which was their shield. They little thought that in its downfall their own ruin was foreshadowed. At the crisis they should have rendered their aid to France, and checked the power of the Prussians. Failing to do so, they gave them an opportunity of showing off their power and gaining undue preponderance. Though any of the states may not now publicly confess its folly in taking that course, it is certain that in their hearts they must be all ashamed of their neutrality, and be looking about them in anxious dread. Well do they all merit the punishment, and well does it become Russian and Prussian greatness not to let slip the opportunity, but to lay waste the whole of Europe. No wonder if that should happen; for though all the petty states are busy in making military preparations to the best of their means, they are all in fear, while the Prussians have been inspired with fresh hopes and ambition by their victory.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The *Urdū Akhbār* of the 1st June, under the heading "Purmeah," states that in consequence of the bad temper of the Deputy Inspector, the Educational Department of the district is in great agitation. The head Maulavī of the Normal School, as well as the Sub-deputy Inspectors and the subordinate teachers,



have sent in their resignations to the Inspector of Behár, and prayed for a redress of their wrongs.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Panjábi Akhbár* of the 3rd June states that the Parsees in India have formed a committee to collect subscriptions for the relief of their famine-stricken brethren. The sum hitherto raised amounts to Rs. 11,000. The writer praises the Parsees for their laudable exertions in so good a cause.

The same paper notices the proposal of Bábu Girdhári Lál, a talookdar of Rohilkhund, at present in His Highness the Nizam's service, to charter a steamer expressly for the purpose of enabling Hindús to undertake a journey to England without their religious prejudices being in any way interfered with. Proper arrangements will be secured on board ship for cooking food and performing the religious duties observed by the Hindús, and every care will be taken by the master of the ship to see that the forms and observances peculiar to Hindú religion are scrupulously regarded, and that nothing is done that be in any way inconsistent therewith.

The editor eulogizes the Bábu's proposal, and remarks that, provided it can be carried out, there will be great advantage in it.





The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this report, viz.:—

No.	NAME OF NEWSPAPER.	WHERE PUBLISHED.	DATE.		DATE OF RECEIPT.	
			1871.		1871.	
1	<i>Rifāh-i-Khalāiq</i> , ...	Shahjehanpore,	April	15th	June	7th
2	<i>Ditto</i> , ...	Ditto, ...	May	1st	"	7th
3	<i>Saharanpore Gazette</i> , ...	Saharanpore, ...	"	15th	"	4th
4	<i>Rifāh-i-Khalāiq</i> , ...	Shahjehanpore,	"	15th	"	7th
5	<i>Jagat Samāchār</i> , ...	Meerut, ...	"	22nd	"	4th
6	<i>Dabdaba-i-Sikandarī</i> , ...	Rampore, ...	"	22nd	"	7th
7	<i>Benares Akhbār</i> , ...	Benares, ...	"	25th	"	4th
8	<i>Rohilkhund Samāchār Patra</i> .	Muradabad, ...	"	27th	"	6th
9	<i>Meerut Gazette</i> , ...	Meerut, ...	"	27th	"	7th
10	<i>Mārwar Gazette</i> , ...	Jodhpore, ...	"	29th	"	6th
11	<i>Jagat Samāchār</i> , ...	Meerut, ...	"	29th	"	7th
12	<i>Oudh Akhbār</i> , ...	Lucknow, ...	"	30th	"	4th
13	<i>Agra Akhbār</i> , ...	Agra, ...	"	30th	"	6th
14	<i>Mālwa Akhbār</i> , ...	Indour, ...	"	31st	"	4th
15	<i>Akmal-ul-Akhbār</i> , ...	Delhi, ...	"	31st	"	6th
16	<i>Benares Akhbār</i> , ...	Benares, ...	June	1st	"	4th
17	<i>Urdū Akhbār</i> , ...	Delhi, ...	"	1st	"	4th
18	<i>Samaya Vinod</i> , ...	Nynce Tal, ...	"	1st	"	6th
19	<i>Mufid i-Am</i> , ...	Agra, ...	"	1st	"	6th
20	<i>Mangal Samāchār</i> , ...	Beswan, ...	"	1st	"	6th
21	<i>Nūr-ul-Ahsār</i> , ...	Allahabad, ...	"	1st	"	6th
22	<i>Najm-ul-Akhbār</i> , ...	Meerut, ...	"	1st	"	6th
23	<i>Akhbār-i-Alam</i> , ...	Ditto, ...	"	1st	"	6th
24	<i>Allygurh Institute Gazette</i> , ...	Allygurh, ...	"	2nd	"	5th
25	<i>Lawrence Gazette</i> , ...	Meerut, ...	"	2nd	"	6th
26	<i>Rajpūtāna Social Science Congress</i> .	Jaipore, ...	"	2nd	"	6th
27	<i>Urdū Delhi Gazette</i> , ...	Agra, ...	"	3rd	"	6th
28	<i>Majma-ul-Bahrain</i> , ...	Ludhiana, ...	"	3rd	"	6th
29	<i>Panjābī Akhbār</i> , ...	Lahore, ...	"	3rd	"	6th
30	<i>Kavi Vachan Sudhā</i> , ...	Benares, ...	"	3rd	"	10th
31	<i>Dabdaba-i-Sikandarī</i> , ...	Rampore, ...	"	5th	"	9th
32	<i>Kārnāmah</i> , ...	Lucknow, ...	"	5th	"	9th
33	<i>Nasim-i-Jaunpore</i> , ...	Jaunpore, ...	"	6th	"	9th
34	<i>Shola-i-Tūr</i> , ...	Cawnpore, ...	"	6th	"	9th
35	<i>Khair Khwāh-i-Panjāb</i> , ...	Gujaranwalla, ...	"	1st week	"	5th

ALLAHABAD :  
The 14th June, 1871. }

SOHAN LAL,  
Offg. Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of  
Upper India.